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Dated: April 17, 2009

Signature: 

(William A. DiBianca)

EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

Group Art Unit: 3738

Docket No.: SPINE 3.0-437 CPCPCPCPCPCPIICPCON

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Zubok et al.

Application No.: 10/783,152

Filed: February 20, 2004

For: PARALLEL DISTRACTOR AND RELATED
METHODS FOR USE IN IMPLANTING AN
ARTIFICIAL INTERVERTEBRAL DISC

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: Group Art Unit: 3738
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: Examiner: B. E.
: Pellegrino
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AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.116

MS AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Madam:

In response to the Office Action dated October 17, 2008, finally rejecting claims 1, 3, 4, 9-12, 16 and 17, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows: